

**Amendments to the Claims**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:**

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method for dividing user storage space of an optical disc, the method comprising acts of:

dividing the user storage space located between a lead-in area and a lead-out area of the optical disk into a plurality of storage sections including one or more first storage sections where a specific application is allowed to write only user data in a first format is recordable and one or more second sections where said application is not allowed to write only user data in a second format that is different from the first format is recordable, wherein the user storage space is space on the optical disc that is available for a user to store-record user data; and

defining one or more availability parameters which defines a location and/or extent of at least one application-allowed-storage section in the user storage space of the optical disk.

2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said one or more availability parameters is incorporated in a standard format for the application concerned.

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said one or more availability parameters is a variable parameter whose value is stored in a predetermined area or location of the user storage space of the optical disc.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said availability parameters defines a borderline address between ~~an application-allowed~~ the first storage section and ~~an application-forbidden~~ the second storage section.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said availability parameters defines an extremity address of ~~an application-allowed~~ one of the first or second storage section sections.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said availability parameters defines a length of ~~an application-allowed~~ one of the first or second storage section sections.

7. (Currently amended) A user-writeable optical disc, the optical disc comprising:

a user storage space located between a lead-in area and a lead-out area of the optical disk divided into a plurality of storage sections including one or more first storage sections where a specific application is allowed to write only user data in a first format is recordable and one or more second storage sections where said application is not allowed to write only user data in a second format that is different from the first format is recordable,

wherein the user storage space is space on the optical disc that is available for a user to ~~store~~ record user data; and

a predetermined area or location of the user storage space where one or more availability parameters is stored which defines a location and/or extent of at least one ~~application-allowed~~ storage section in the user storage space of the optical disk.

8. (Currently amended) The user-writeable optical disc according to claim 7, wherein at least one of said availability parameters defines a borderline address between an ~~application-allowed~~ the first storage section and an ~~application-forbidden~~ the second storage section.

9. (Currently amended) The user-writeable optical disc according to claim 7, wherein at least one of said availability parameters defines an extremity address of an ~~application-allowed~~ one of the first or second storage ~~section~~ sections.

10. (Currently amended) The user-writeable optical disc according to claim 7, wherein at least one of said availability parameters defines a length of an ~~application-allowed~~ one of the first or second storage ~~section~~ sections.

11. (Previously presented) The user-writeable optical disc according to claim 7, wherein the values of said parameters are stored as a table in a predetermined area or location of the user storage space of the disc.

12. (Previously presented) The user-writeable optical disc according to claim 11, wherein said table contains at least one entry defining the length of the table.

13. (Currently amended) A method of writing ~~information~~ user data to an optical disc comprising acts of:

determining a value of an availability parameter;

determining at least one first and at least one second predefined application-allowed storage section of a user storage space located between a lead-in area and a lead-out area of the optical disk on the basis of said availability parameter, in the first predefined storage section only user data in a first format is recordable and in the second predefined storage section only user data in a second format that is different from the first format is recordable, wherein the user storage space is space on the optical disc that is available for a user to ~~store~~ record user data;

consulting application-specific recording location information regarding location and extent of recorded areas of the user storage space;

selecting, within said ~~application-allowed~~ first and second predefined storage section sections of the user storage space, a free area suitable for accommodating the ~~information~~ user data to be written, based on whether the user data to be written is in the first or second formats and taking into account said recorded areas as determined by said application-specific recording location information;

~~writing~~ recording said ~~information~~ user data within said free area thus selected.

14. (Currently amended) The method of writing information to an optical disc according to claim 713, comprising ~~acts of:~~ an act of reading the one or more availability parameters from the optical disc;

~~determining at least one predefined application-allowed storage section in the user storage space on the basis of said one or more availability parameters;~~

~~consulting application-specific recording location information regarding location and extent of recorded areas in the user storage space;~~

~~selecting, within said application-allowed storage section, a free area suitable for accommodating the information to be written, taking into account said recorded areas as determined by said application-specific recording location information;~~

~~writing said information within said free area thus selected.~~

15. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein writing to an address outside said an application-allowed storage section is avoided.

16. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 14, wherein, ~~if it appears that the~~ user data is user data of the second format, the method comprising acts of:

determining if the size of the free area is insufficient to accommodate the information user data to be recorded written, the following acts are executed:

if insufficient:

~~determining whether the application-forbidden first storage section within the~~

user storage area and outside said ~~application-allowed~~ second storage section, either by itself or in combination with the free area already found, contains a storage space portion suitable and sufficient for accommodating the ~~information~~ user data to be written; and

amending at least one of said one or more availability parameters such as to increase the size of said ~~application-allowed~~ second predefined storage section thereby also decreasing the size of said first predefined storage section.

17. (Currently amended) Apparatus, comprising a signal processing system configured to communicate with a disc drive system of a disc drive apparatus for writing data to and reading data from an optical disc, wherein said signal processing system is configured to divide user storage space located between a lead-in area and a lead-out area of the optical disc into a plurality of storage sections including one or more first storage sections where a specific application is allowed to write only user data in a first format is recordable and one or more second storage sections where said application is not allowed to write only user data in a second format that is different from the first format is recordable, wherein the user storage space is space on the optical disc that is available for a user to store user data, and to define one or more availability parameters which defines a location and/or extent of at least one ~~application-allowed~~ of the first and second storage sections.